SWEDEN: BASIC DATA

GEOGRAPHY Sweden is the largest of the Scandinavian states, and has an total land area of

450,000 square kilometres. Sweden's southern extremity lies on the same latitude as Labrador, while its northern regions are closer to the North Pole than Iceland.

CLIMATE Temperate, the hottest month is July (14-22°C), and the coldest month is February

(-5-[-1°]C). The driest month is March (26 mm average rainfall), and the wettest

month is August (76 mm average rainfall).

POPULATION 8,692,013 million (end-1992)

MAJOR CITIES Stockholm 1,503,098 Uppsala 170,743

Gothenburg 734,310 Linkoping 124,352 Malmo 479,702 Orebro 122,042

TIME Sweden is 1 hour ahead of GMT, and 6 hours ahead of EST.

MEASURES Metric system.

Languages spoken in Sweden include Swedish, English and Finnish.

CURRENCY Krona=100 öre.

ECONOMY Due to Sweden's abundance of natural resources, the economy is characterised

by a highly developed industrial sector. A favourable socio-political environment, including a neutral stance in both world wars, provided the context for development of the modern Swedish welfare state. The Swedish economy is mixed

with approximately 70 percent of GDP passing through the public sector.

HOLIDAYS Public holidays in Sweden fall on January 1, 6; Easter Friday and Monday; May 1,

Ascension Day (Monday); June, Midsummer Day (Saturday, Week 25); November,

All Saints Day (1st Saturday) and 6; December 25 and 26.